Special Eurobarometer 474

Europeans’ perceptions of the Schengen Area

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Survey requested by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs and co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.
Europeans’ perceptions of the Schengen Area

June-July 2018
INTRODUCTION

The free movement of persons is a fundamental right guaranteed by the EU to its citizens. It entitles every EU citizen to travel, work and live in any EU country without special formalities. The creation of the Schengen Areas embodies concretely this freedom by enabling all persons to cross internal borders (meaning borders between countries of the Schengen Area) without being subjected to border checks. The Schengen Area guarantees unrestricted travel within a territory of 26 countries, home to more than 400 million citizens. ¹

Currently, the Schengen Area consists of 22 EU Schengen States: Belgium, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden, along with four non-EU Schengen States: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. In a total of 26 European countries.

Being part of the area without internal border controls means that these countries:

- do not carry out border checks at their internal borders (i.e. borders between two Schengen States);
- carry out harmonised border controls, based on clearly defined criteria and standards, at their external borders (i.e. at the borders between a Schengen State and a non-Schengen State).

As a result, both EU citizens and non-EU nationals may freely travel within the Schengen Area without being subject to a border check, and are checked only when crossing the external border².

The current Eurobarometer survey was commissioned by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs to assess the awareness, attitudes and opinions of Europeans regarding the Schengen Area. Questions covered include:

- Awareness of the Schengen Area: what it is and whether their country is part of the Schengen Area;
- Understanding of whether countries have an internal and/or external border in the Schengen Area;
- Respondents’ proximity to an internal and external border;
- Frequency of travel within the EU, within the Schengen Area and outside the Schengen Area;
- Reasons for travel and transport methods;
- Perceptions of ease of travel inside and outside the Schengen Area;
- Attitudes towards the Schengen Area and its main perceived positive aspects;
- Awareness and experience of temporary reintroduced internal border controls;
- Awareness of EU initiatives to secure its external borders;
- Support for more EU involvement in securing external borders, and support for more funding to secure these borders.


² Ireland and the United Kingdom are EU States that are not part of the Schengen Area. Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania are not yet part of the Schengen Area. This means that a flight from one of these States to a Schengen State is regarded as an external flight and is subject to border checks. However, EU citizens have the right to free movement when travelling within the EU, regardless of whether the country is part of Schengen or not. In principle, when entering a non-Schengen State, EU citizens undergo checks to verify their identities on the basis of travel documents (passport or identity card).² and are systematically checked against relevant databases.
This survey was carried out by the Kantar Public Brussels network in the 28 Member States of the European Union between 23rd June and 6th July 2018. In total, 27,734 EU citizens from different social and demographic categories were interviewed face-to-face at home and in their native language.

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication (“Media monitoring, media analysis and Eurobarometer” Unit). It is the same for all countries and territories covered in the survey. A technical note concerning the interviews conducted by the member institutes of the Kantar Public network is annexed to this report. It also specifies the confidence intervals.

Note: In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

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* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the ‘acquis communautaire’ has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the ‘CY’ category and in the EU28 average.

We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union who have given their time to take part in this survey.

Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

3 http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion
4 The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.
I. GENERAL AWARENESS

Two thirds of Europeans have heard of the Schengen Area, although just under half say they know what it is

Respondents were asked whether they had heard of the Schengen Area. Two thirds (67%) say that they have heard of the Schengen Area, comprising just under half (46%) who say they have heard of it and know what it is, and around one in five (21%) who say they have heard of it but do not know what it is. One third of respondents (33%) have never heard of the Schengen Area.

Awareness of the Schengen Area varies considerably between EU Member States. In Slovenia (81%) and Luxembourg (78%), more than three quarters of respondents say they have heard of the Schengen Area and know what it is. By contrast, less than a quarter of respondents say this in Cyprus (12%), both Spain and Ireland (both 19%) and the UK (23%).

As might be expected, awareness tends to be lower in non-Schengen EU States, such as Cyprus, Ireland and the UK, although it is relatively high in Bulgaria and Croatia (both 56%) and in Romania (51%). At the same time, awareness is low in some EU Schengen States (such as Spain, Italy and Portugal).

QA1 Have you ever heard of the Schengen Area?
 (% - EU)

No, you have never heard of it - 33
Yes, you have heard of it but you do not know what it is - 21
Yes, you have heard of it and know what it is - 46

Base: all respondents (N=27,734)
Among respondents living in the Schengen Area, more than four in five are aware that their country belongs to it

Respondents who had heard of the Schengen Area were asked whether their country is part of it. The vast majority say that their country is part of the Schengen Area (82%), while 12% say it is not and 6% do not know.

QA2 As far as you know, is (OUR COUNTRY) part of the Schengen Area? (% - EU)

Base: all respondents who had heard of the Schengen Area (N=18,565)
In each of the 22 EU Schengen States, more than four in five respondents know that their country belongs to it. The proportion is highest in Luxembourg (98%) and Slovenia (96%), and lowest in Latvia (82%), Portugal (83%) and Italy (84%).

In the six non-Schengen EU States, a sizeable minority of respondents think that their country does belong to it. The proportion is highest in the UK (39%) and Ireland (37%) and lowest in Bulgaria (21%).

Base: all respondents who had heard of the Schengen Area (N=18,565)
II. BORDERING WITH THE SCHENGEN AREA

Three quarters believe their country borders a country belonging to the Schengen Area

Respondents were asked whether their country shares a border with a country belonging to the Schengen Area. Three quarters of respondents (75%) say that their country does share a border with a country that is part of the Schengen Area, while 12% say it does not and 13% do not know.

Most EU Member States share an internal border with a country that is part of the Schengen Area; the exceptions are the UK, Ireland, Malta, Cyprus and Greece.

Respondents in Luxembourg (97%) are the most likely to know that their country shares a border with a country belonging to the Schengen Area, followed by those in Slovakia, Slovenia and the Netherlands (all 92%). Respondents in Romania (57%), Bulgaria (60%), and Italy and Spain (both 62%) are least likely to know that their country shares a border with a country that is part of the Schengen Area.

Base: all respondents in countries that border another country (N=23,551)

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7 QA4 As far as you know, does (OUR COUNTRY) share any borders with a country belonging to the Schengen Area?
8 This question was not asked in Cyprus or Malta.
III. TRAVEL INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE SCHENGEN AREA

Six in ten respondents travel to other countries within the EU and nearly six in ten respondents travel to countries inside the Schengen Area

Respondents were asked how often they travel to other countries inside the EU. Just 1% of respondents do so at least once a week, while a further 3% travel within the EU monthly or several times a month, and 17% do so several times a year. Around one in six (18%) travel within the EU once a year, and one in five (21%) do so less often. This leaves a total of 40% of respondents who never travel to other countries within the EU.

Respondents were then asked how often they travel to countries inside the Schengen Area. As might be expected, these figures are very similar to those on travel to other EU countries.

When asked how often they travel to countries outside the Schengen Area, just 1% do it once a month or more, while 5% do so several times a year and 10% once a year. A quarter (25%) travel outside the Schengen Area less than once a year, while 58% never do so.

QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to...
(%) - EU

... OTHER COUNTRIES WITHIN THE EU?

Daily At least once a week Monthly or several times a month

QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to...
...

... COUNTRIES INSIDE THE SCHENGEN AREA?

THIS INCLUDES COUNTRIES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE EU)

QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to...
...

... COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE SCHENGEN AREA?

THIS INCLUDES COUNTRIES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE EU)

QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to...

Base: all respondents (N=27,734)

9 QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to other countries within the EU?
10 QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to countries INSIDE the Schengen Area? (This includes countries both inside and outside the EU)?
11 QA8 How often do you travel for any reason, including commuting to work to countries OUTSIDE the Schengen Area? (This includes countries both inside and outside the EU)?
**Holidays are the main reason for traveling to countries inside the Schengen Area**

Respondents who had ever travelled to countries inside the Schengen Area were asked for their main reasons for travelling. Respondents could give more than one answer, up to a maximum of three.

By far the main reason for travelling is for holidays (86%), while shopping is the next most common reason, either non-grocery shopping (10%) or grocery shopping (9%). Just under one in ten (9%) take business trips to countries inside the Schengen Area, while 4% commute for work or education and 3% travel for their studies.

Although a holiday is the most common reason for travel in every EU Member State, there is some variation in the proportions travelling for other reasons. A third of respondents or more visit countries in the Schengen Area for non-grocery shopping in Luxembourg (35%), Slovakia (33%) and Austria (32%). Respondents in Luxembourg are also the most likely to travel for grocery shopping (37%), followed by those in Croatia (28%) and Slovakia (27%).

Respondents are most likely to travel to countries in the Schengen Area for business in Romania (22%) and Estonia (20%), while respondents in Lithuania (12%), and Malta, Spain and Greece (all 10%) are most likely to commute for work or education. A relatively high proportion of respondents in Italy (8%) travel for their studies.

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12 QA10 What are your main reasons for travelling to other countries within the Schengen Area?
### QA10: What are your main reasons for travelling to other countries WITHIN the Schengen Area? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

| Reason                          | EU28 | BE  | BG  | CZ  | DK  | DE  | EE  | IE  | EL  | ES  | FR  | HR  | IT  | CY  | LV  | LT  | LU  | HU  | MT  | NL  | AT  | PL  | PT  | RO  | SI  | SK  | FI  | SE  | UK  |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Holidays                       | 86   | 77  | 73  | 81  | 89  | 90  | 78  | 94  | 84  | 88  | 86  | 58  | 92  | 92  | 72  | 75  | 77  | 75  | 97  | 89  | 85  | 79  | 85  | 68  | 70  | 79  | 90  | 92  | 91  |
| Other non-grocery shopping     | 10   | 24  | 13  | 20  | 12  | 13  | 10  | 5   | 13  | 5   | 8   | 23  | 4   | 10  | 15  | 9   | 35  | 7   | 17  | 3    | 15  | 2     | 14  | 22   | 17  | 9   | 8   | 4   | 18  | 27  |
| Business trips (excluding commuting) | 9    | 9   | 8   | 9   | 14  | 8   | 9   | 10  | 13  | 1   | 8   | 14  | 8   | 10  | 12  | 15  | 7   | 17  | 7   | 10  | 10  | 15  | 14  | 18  | 16  | 12  | 12  | 14  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  |
| Grocery shopping               | 9    | 24  | 5   | 3   | 17  | 12  | 7   | 10  | 10  | 10  | 8   | 28  | 2   | 1   | 12  | 15  | 17  | 7   | 17  | 7   | 10  | 15  | 14  | 18  | 16  | 12  | 12  | 14  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  |
| Commuting for work or for education | 4    | 5   | 5   | 2   | 2   | 0   | 7   | 2   | 5   | 4   | 3   | 4   | 3   | 3   | 9   | 3   | 9   | 7   | 1   | 1   | 4   | 1   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   |
| Studies                        | 3    | 4   | 3   | 1   | 0   | 2   | 5   | 2   | 1   | 0   | 4   | 3   | 2   | 1   | 6   | 3   | 3   | 4   | 1   | 2   | 1   | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   |
| Medical reasons (e.g. doctor or hospital) | 1    | 3   | 2   | 4   | 0   | 1   | 1   | 2   | 6   | 4   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Other (SPONTANEOUS)            | 5    | 2   | 2   | 4   | 5   | 3   | 9   | 2   | 6   | 4   | 4   | 12  | 3   | 1   | 6   | 1   | 1   | 2   | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   |
| Don't know                     | 1    | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |

**Summary**

Base: all respondents who have ever travelled to countries inside the Schengen Area (N=15,737)
IV. PERCEPTIONS OF THE SCHENGEN AREA

Three-quarters of respondents agree that the Schengen Area is good for business in their country and nearly seven in ten agree it is one of the EU’s main achievements.

Respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree with a series of statements about the Schengen Area. At least half of the respondents agree with each of the statements.

QA12: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Schengen Area? (% - EU)

- The Schengen Area is good for business in (our country): 75% agree, 11% disagree, 14% don't know.
- The Schengen Area is one of the EU's main achievements: 68% agree, 15% disagree, 17% don't know.
- The Schengen Area has more advantages than disadvantages for (our country): 66% agree, 17% disagree, 17% don't know.
- The Schengen Area has more advantages than disadvantages for me personally: 61% agree, 22% disagree, 17% don't know.
- The Schengen Area contributes to EU security: 55% agree, 30% disagree, 15% don't know.

Base: all respondents (N=27,734)

In each EU Member State, a majority of respondents agrees that the Schengen Area is good for business in their country. Respondents in Luxembourg (93%), the Netherlands (91%) and Finland (88%) are the most likely to agree, while respondents in the UK and Ireland are least likely to agree (56% in both countries); again, this is partly the result of a high proportion of ‘don’t know’ answers in these two countries (30% and 35% respectively). The highest levels of disagreement can be seen in France (20%) and Romania (19%).

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13 QA12 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Schengen Area?
In all countries except the UK, a majority of respondents agrees that the Schengen Area is one of the EU’s main achievements. Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in Luxembourg (87%), Poland (80%), Slovakia (80%), and Lithuania and the Netherlands (both 79%). Respondents are least likely to agree in the UK (45%) and Ireland (54%), although there is a high proportion of ‘don’t know’ answers in both countries (35% and 34% respectively).

**QA12.2** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Schengen Area?
The Schengen Area is good for business in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)
The most positive aspects of the Schengen Area are easier trade and travel, and absence of passport control

Respondents were asked what they believed were the most positive aspects of the Schengen Area. They were asked to choose the single most positive aspect, and then up to two more positive aspects.

Looking at all of the answers given by respondents, the positive aspects of the Schengen Area that are chosen most frequently are that it makes trade easier (43%), that there are no passport controls (38%) and that it makes daily cross-border travel easier (37%).

In 11 countries, the positive aspect of the Schengen Area that is chosen most frequently is that it makes trade easier. Respondents in the Netherlands (65%) are the most likely to say this, followed by those in Spain (50%), Sweden (49%), Belgium (48%) and Denmark (47%). Absence of passport controls is the aspect chosen most frequently in 10 EU Member States, most notably in Slovakia (66%), Austria (58%) and Hungary (57%). This is also the joint highest answer in Cyprus, along with easier cross-border travel.

In five countries, the most positive aspect of the Schengen Area is that it makes cross-border travel easier. Respondents in Estonia (57%), and Finland and Latvia (both 56%) are most likely to give this answer.

Finally, in Portugal respondents are most likely to say that the increase in tourism is one of the most positive aspects of the Schengen Area in their country (54%).

QA13 Which of the following do you think is the main positive aspect of the Schengen Area?
Europeans’ perceptions of the Schengen Area

June–July 2018

Special Eurobarometer 474

Summary

QA13T Which of the following do you think is the positive aspects of the Schengen Area? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

(\% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)

Base: all respondents (\(N=27,734\))
V. TEMPORARY BORDER CONTROLS

A quarter of respondents have had experience of reintroduced internal border controls

Respondents who have ever travelled to countries inside the Schengen Area were asked whether they had personally experienced temporarily internal border controls\(^\text{15}\). Around a quarter (24\%) say that they have experienced reintroduced internal border controls, while the majority have not (75\%).

More than half of respondents in Denmark (65\%), Austria (57\%) and Romania (56\%) say they have experienced temporarily reintroduced internal border controls, while only a small proportion have experienced them in Ireland and the UK (both 13\%) and Portugal (14\%)\(^\text{16}\).

\(^{15}\) QA16 Have you experienced temporary internal border controls when travelling to countries within the Schengen Area?  

\(^{16}\) Although the internal border controls have been temporarily reintroduced in five Member States (AT, DE, DK, SE and FR), respondents living in another Member State may have also experienced these controls while traveling to the abovementioned countries.
Two thirds of those with experience of temporarily reintroduced internal border controls say that crossing took longer than before

Respondents who had experienced temporarily reintroduced internal border controls were asked how this compared to before their reintroduction\(^\text{17}\). Around two thirds (68%) say that the border crossing took longer than before, including 17% who say that it took much longer. Just over a quarter (27%) say that it made no difference to their experience of border crossing.

Among respondents who have experienced temporarily reintroduced internal border controls, those in Belgium (87%) are most likely to say that their border crossing took longer than before, followed by respondents in Austria (79%), the Netherlands (78%) and Hungary (75%). By contrast, only around half of respondents in Luxembourg (48%), Latvia (49%) and France (51%) say that their border crossing took longer.

Respondents are most likely to say that the border crossing took much longer than before in Cyprus (29%), Austria (27%), Spain (26%) and Greece (25%).

\(^{17}\) QA17 Overall, how was your experience of crossing the border with temporary internal border controls? Did the border crossing take...
Europeans’ perceptions of the Schengen Area

June-July 2018

Special Eurobarometer 474

Summary

Base: all respondents who have experienced temporary border controls (N=3,748)
VI. EU EXTERNAL BORDERS

The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) is the most widely known EU initiative

A quarter of respondents (26%) say they are aware of EU initiatives to secure its external borders, while 71% say they are not aware and 3% do not know. Among those who are aware of any of these initiatives, respondents are most likely to be aware of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) (50%), while 22% are aware of the Entry/Exit System (EES), 19% have heard of the Visa Information System (VIS) and 17% are aware of the Schengen Information System (SIS). Awareness is slightly lower in relation to the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) (13%) and funding programmes such as the Internal Security Fund (10%).

Despite initially saying they were aware of EU initiatives, 8% say that they are not aware of any of the listed initiatives and 7% do not know.

QA18 Are you aware of any EU initiatives to secure its external borders?

QA19 What EU initiatives to secure external borders are you aware of? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Base: all respondents who are aware of any EU initiatives to secure its external borders (N=7,210)
Nearly 80% are in favour of increased EU involvement in securing external borders

Respondents were asked whether they think the EU should be more involved in helping countries secure EU external borders. Four in five respondents (79%) say that the EU should be more involved, comprising 40% who say they should definitely be more involved and 39% who say that they should be more involved to some extent. One in seven respondents think that the EU should not be more involved: 3% definitely not and 11% ‘not really’.

Respondents in Malta (92%) and Cyprus (91%) are most likely to say that the EU should be more involved in helping countries located at the EU’s external borders to secure them, followed by respondents in Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Germany and Greece (all 87%). Agreement is lowest in Latvia (68%), Italy (70%), France (72%) and the UK (74%).

Respondents in Latvia (25%), Belgium (22%), and France and Italy (both 21%) are most likely to say that the EU should not be more involved.

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20 QA20 Do you think the EU should be more involved in helping countries located at the EU’s external borders to secure them?
21 According to the new GDPR regulation, respondents were asked for their consent before asking this question and 1,077 respondents declined to give their consent, hence the smaller base size
Nearly three quarters are in favour of increased funding to strengthen EU external borders

Respondents were asked whether they think funding should be increased to secure EU external borders. Almost three quarters (72%) of respondents agree that funding should be increased, including more than a quarter (28%) who totally agree. One in five (20%) disagree, while 8% don’t know.

QA21 To what extent do you agree or disagree that funding should be increased to strengthen the EU’s external borders? (% - EU)

Base: all respondents (N=26,657)

22 QA21 To what extent do you agree or disagree that funding should be increased to strengthen the EU’s external borders?
23 According to the new GDPR regulation, respondents were asked for their consent before asking this question and 1,077 respondents declined to give their consent, hence the smaller base size
In every country, a majority of respondents agrees that funding should be increased to secure EU external borders. Agreement is highest in Malta (90%), Hungary (89%), Croatia (87%), Cyprus (86%) and Greece (85%). Respondents are least likely to agree with the statement in Sweden (58%), France (61%), and the Netherlands and the UK (both 66%) and Italy (67%).

In general, higher levels of agreement are seen in countries in the south-east of the EU, including those that are part of the EU’s external borders.

**QA21** To what extent do you agree or disagree that funding should be increased to strengthen the EU’s external borders?

![Bar chart showing agreement levels across countries.](chart.png)

*Base: all respondents (N=26,657)*
CONCLUSION

There are mixed levels of knowledge about the Schengen Area among EU citizens. Before being prompted, nearly half say they have heard of the Schengen Area and know what it is, while one third say they have never heard of it. Awareness of the Schengen Area also varies considerably between countries, partly based on the country’s location in relation to the Schengen Area.

In each of the 22 EU Member States that belong to the Schengen Area, more than four in five respondents who have heard of the Schengen Area know that their country belongs to it. However, in the six non-Schengen EU States, a sizeable minority think that their country does belong to it.

In countries that have an internal border within the Schengen Area, the majority are aware of this, and in some countries nearly all respondents are aware of it. Similarly, in most countries that share a border with a country outside the Schengen Area, the majority of respondents state correctly that this is the case. However, there is some confusion on this issue in certain countries; for example only a minority in Ireland are aware that it does not have an internal border.

Travel patterns are varied. There are some respondents (often those living close to a border) who travel frequently across an internal or external border, including for shopping or for work. At the same time, the majority of EU citizens never travel outside the Schengen Area while around three in five have traveled outside of their own country and inside the Schengen Area. This illustrates a strong division among European citizens, both in their travel behaviour and the extent to which they are conscious of the Schengen Area.

The survey has highlighted overall positive attitudes towards the Schengen Area. Around two thirds agree that the Schengen Area is one of the EU’s main achievements, and a similar proportion say that the Schengen Area has more advantages than disadvantages, both for them personally and for their country. Three quarters of respondents agree that the Schengen Area is good for business in EU countries. Views are also mostly positive in relation to security: more than half agree that the Schengen Area contributes to EU security, whereas three in ten disagree.

Respondents think that the most positive aspects of the Schengen Area are that it makes trade easier, that there are no passport controls and that it makes daily cross-border travel easier. At the same time, there are mixed views on ease of travel: almost half say that travelling inside the Schengen Area is easier than travelling outside it, a quarter say that travelling outside the Schengen Area is easier and a similar proportion say that there is no difference. These views vary greatly by country.

In countries affected by the temporary reintroduction of internal border controls, around half of respondents say that they were aware of them. Approximately equal proportions believe that temporary internal border controls have been reintroduced to prevent terrorism as say they are to discourage people from coming illegally to their country. Where people have experienced temporary reintroduced internal border controls, around two thirds say that the border crossing took longer than before.

There is limited awareness of EU initiatives to secure its external borders overall: only a quarter say they have heard of any initiatives. However, 50% of those aware of EU initiatives to secure external borders were aware of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). Moreover, the majority think the EU should be more involved in helping countries secure EU external borders, and that funding should be increased to secure these borders.
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 23rd June and the 6th July 2018, Kantar Public carried out the wave 89.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, “Media Monitoring, Media Analysis and Eurobarometer” Unit.

The wave 89.3 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
<th>INSTITUTES</th>
<th>N* INTERVIEWS</th>
<th>DATES FIELDWORK</th>
<th>POPULATION 15+</th>
<th>PROPORTION EU28</th>
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<td>23/06/2018</td>
<td>06/07/2018</td>
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</table>
The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country, a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), Kantar Public applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed here.

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

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1 Figures updated in August 2015